storney Docket No. 1417B P 316 (DDR 5455)

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

S. Utility Patent Application of: Arnold C. BILSTAD, et al.

Examiner: I. Soubra

Serial No.

09/294,964

Filed:

APR 0 9 2001

April 20, 1999

Art Unit: 1744

#11 4/12/01

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE

STERILE FIELD

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL OF SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLO STATEMENT BEFORE MAILING OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Applicant submits herewith Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the references listed thereon

The Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement transmitted herewith is being filed after the mailing date of the First Office Action on the merits but before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, whichever occurs first.

Enclosed is a check in the sum of \$180.00 in payment of the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any deficit in these fees to Deposit Account No. 23-0280. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed for that purpose.

By:

Dated: April 5, 2001

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I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 5, 2001

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